

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUBLIN 00429 251704Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 CU-02 OMB-01 ACDA-07 /084 W

-----260313 046095 /63

R 251145Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8853

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DUBLIN 00429 251704Z

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 429

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CSCE EI

SUBJECT: CONSULTATION WITH IRISH ON CSCE

REF: STATE 38923

1. WE DISCUSSED CSCE FEBRUARY 24 WITH MFA COUNSELLOR MACKERNAN AND MADE THE POINTS IN THE REFTEL. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE EC GROUP ON CSCE WAS MEETING THAT VERY DAY IN LONDON. MACKERNAN READ THE INSTRUCTIONS HE HAD SENT TO JIM SHARKEY, IRELAND'S REP. IN GENERAL, SHARKEY WAS INSTRUCTED TO GO ALONG WITH THE EC MAJORITY. IRELAND HAS NO UNILATERAL CSCE INITIATIVES, AT LEAST FOR NOW, BUT HOPES TO PUT A MAJOR "PHILOSOPHICAL" INPUT INTO THE EC DELIBERATIONS (BELOW).

2. IN A DISCUSSION ABOUT THE CONSULTATIONS WITH "NEUTRAL/ NON-ALIGNED STATES", MACKERNAN STRESSED THAT IT IS A MISTAKE TO PUT IRELAND IN A CATEGORY WITH SWEDEN, FINLAND, AUSTRIA AND SWITZERLAND. ALTHOUGH NOT A MEMBER OF NATO, AND HISTORICALLY KNOWN AS A "NEUTRAL", IRELAND IS, IN FACT, A MEMBER OF THE EC AND ALL OF ITS POLICIES ON CSCE ARE ESTABLISHED IN THE EC CONTEXT. IRELAND DOES NOT "CAUCUS" WITH THE OTHER NEUTRALS ON CSCE, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF AN OCCASIONAL INFORMAL MEETING UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE -- THESE MEETINGS ARE MERELY FOR AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND INFORMATION AND ARE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 DUBLIN 00429 251704Z

NOT FOR POLICY MAKING OR COORDINATION.

3. THE IRISH SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A TWO-LEVEL MAIN CONFERENCE AT BELGRADE, AND BELIEVE THE DUTCH WILL COME AROUND TO THIS VIEW SHORTLY. HE SAID THAT HE IS FRANKLY PUZZLED BY THE FRENCH ATTITUDE, AND HIS BEST GUESS IS THAT THE FRENCH HAVE SOME OBSCURE THEORETICAL MOTIVATION MIXED UP WITH THEIR CURRENT INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION. HE EXPECTS THAT THE EC STRATEGY FOR THE MAIN CONFERENCE WILL BE WORKED OUT WITHIN THE NEXT MONTH OR TWO AND THAT THE FRENCH WILL EVENTUALLY ACCEDE TO THE MAJORITY VIEW.

4. MACKERNAN SAID THAT HE IS A BIT DISTURBED ABOUT THE PROJECTED BELGIAN PROJECT OF BRINGING FORTH A GRAND NEW INITIATIVE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AT BELGRADE. HE INSTRUCTED SHARKEY TO POINT OUT THAT THE EASTERN BLOC COULD MAKE MINCEMEAT OF SUCH AN INITIATIVE, AT LEAST PUBLICLY, BECAUSE FOR VARIOUS REASONS SOME WESTERN COUNTRIES,

INCLUDING IRELAND, AND THE U.S., HAVE NOT ACCEDED TO ALL OF THE VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS. THE GOI BELIEVES THAT ANY SERIOUS DISCUSSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AT BELGRADE SHOULD FOCUS ON BASKET III AND THE WEST SHOULD NOT POSIT ANY "NEW" PROPOSALS.

5. THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE IRISH WILL INTRODUCE A PAPER TO THE EC GROUP WHICH WILL TRY TO GET THE DISCUSSION BACK TO ANSWERING THE QUESTION OF "WHAT DO WE WANT TO ACCOMPLISH AT BELGRADE?" MACKERNAN AND OTHERS ARE WORKING ON A DRAFT. THE MAIN FOCUS IS WORLD PUBLIC OPINION, AND HOW THIS COULD EFFECT THE FUTURE OF EAST/WEST RELATIONS. WHILE IT HAS BEEN GENERALLY ACCEPTED THAT THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE WILL MAINLY CENTER IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT, THE WEST MUST REALIZE, HE SAID, THAT THE EXPECTATIONS AROUND THE WORLD FOR BELGRADE ARE FAR BEYOND THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 DUBLIN 00429 251704Z

DIPLOMATS' PRESENT THINKING OF A LOW-KEY, NO-WAVES, CONFERENCE, AND WE MUST AT LEAST CONSIDER THAT BELGRADE OFFERS POSSIBILITIES OF CONTINUING A DYNAMIC PROCESS OF FURTHERING DETENTE.

6. OF INTEREST TO LONDON - IRELAND'S MOSCOW EMBASSY REPORTS THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE EXPLICITLY STATED IN VARIOUS MEDIA THAT THEY INTEND TO CITE THE CURRENT STRASBOURG PROCEEDINGS ON BRITISH HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN NORTHERN IRELAND AS AN EXAMPLE OF NON-COMPLIANCE WITH BASKET III. CURLEY

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